

WHAT ACTORS ARE TALKING ABOUT



E. H. SOTHERN discloses the rather astonishing fact that the version of "Lord Dundreary" which he is presenting at the Booth Theatre, is not the original version as elaborated by his father, the late E. A. Sothern. Mr. Sothern claims that he has twenty-five versions of "Lord Dundreary" from the pen of his father. The cause of these various versions was the lack in 1858 of an adequate copyright law. The result was that anybody who wished to play "Dundreary" need only attend a performance and take the play down in shorthand. In consequence "Dundreary" was being presented by stock companies all over the country. The elder Sothern found it necessary to write one or two versions a year, so that when he travelled about theatregoers would be presented to a new play, not one that they had already seen. The characters alone were preserved.

In the original version of the play there were three acts and eleven scenes, while the version now used by Mr. Sothern is in four acts. An elimination of the text of the original version discloses the fact that none of the wheezes and riddles in the present version are to be found in the original. One of the most amusing of the Dundrearyisms in the original version was as follows:

Mrs. Mountchessington: Thanks to the draught you were kind enough to prescribe for her, Lord Dundreary.

POOL TABLE GOLF, THE NEW GAME

THOSE who think that Kelly pool and indoor golf are the last words in those respective branches of sport must have overlooked the fact that John Doyle's billiard academy has an indoor golf school on the roof below and that the said John Doyle is of a very inventive turn of mind.

A mongrel game called golf pool has been known to a limited number of billiard players for some time, but the real thing, as developed and perfected by John Doyle and submitted to the newspaper men of New York for the annual handicap tournament in the combination game, promises to become one of the most popular games on the pocket table.

The rules of the game are comparatively simple, once the principle of the penalties is properly understood. The table is the usual six pocket pool table, but only three balls are used. There are a white cue ball, which must be exceptionally true, a red object ball, and a black bunker ball.

At the beginning of the game these three are spotted on the regulation three centre line spots and are returned to their respective spots only when pocketed, either by accident or by design.

table from right to left. Each player continues to shoot until he holes out the red ball in the pocket for which he is playing, and each hole must be made in order.

Between the spots are two water hazards, marked out with chalk lines, about 12 inches by 4. On the side rails are four traps, known respectively as rough, long grass, sand pit and a road. These are laid out with chalk lines drawn round the regulation anchor nurse board and are therefore 7 inches square.

In some cases a pond is added at the head of the table, which carries with it the same penalties as the other water hazards. It is a semi-circle, about fourteen inches in diameter, and is intended to trap slow position shots for the 5 and 6 holes.

The black ball is a sort of roving bunker, the penalty for hitting it being always one stroke. It is never replaced on its spot unless it is holed, in which case it costs three strokes. No matter which ball hits it, cue or object, the penalty is the same.

At the beginning of the game, the first player starts from the tee and continues to shoot until he gets the red ball into No. 1 pocket. If the red ball goes into any other pocket the stroke counts three, and the red ball is spotted. There is no penalty for either the red or the black ball stopping in a hazard or for the cue ball passing over those hazards, but if the cue ball comes to rest in a hazard while the red ball is still in play, the player is penalized.

If the cue ball stops in a water hazard, it must be lifted for a penalty of one stroke and tied up half way between the red ball and the pocket for which the striker is playing, that being considered the most difficult position, but it must not be placed in another hazard when tied up.

In case the object ball is too close to the pocket, it is moved out 12 inches, and the cue ball placed half way.

If the cue ball comes to rest in a trap while the red ball is still in play it must be played out of the trap to a cushion before hitting the red ball, and this stroke must be made without soling the club; that is the cue must be drawn back for the stroke, brought completely to rest, and the shot made with one forward stroke. The penalty for taking any of the usual preliminary waggles or sawing of the cue is three strokes.

If the cue ball misses the red altogether, or strikes the bunker ball before hitting the red, the stroke counts three for the miss. If the bunker ball

is hit, one extra. If the cue ball runs into a pocket the stroke counts three. These penalties may, of course, be cumulative. For instance, if the striker should miss the red ball, hit the bunker ball and then run into the pocket he would count seven strokes, three for the miss, one for the bunker, and three for the pocket.

If a player cannot hole out in twelve strokes he must give up the hole, add twelve strokes to his score and spot the red ball for his opponent to play. The two other balls remaining as they lie.

When the game is played by two persons only, each starts from the tee for the first hole. That is, after the first player holes out in pocket No. 1 the red and white are spotted and the second player goes for the same pocket, No. 1. But after each has holed out hole No. 1 the red ball only is spotted, both the cue and bunker balls remaining where they happen to lie, and so on for the remainder of the eighteen holes, three times around the table.

It is therefore clearly to the advantage of the player who is certain of holing the red ball on the shot to leave the cue ball in as difficult a position as possible for his opponent, or to play in such a manner that the cue ball shall come to a rest in a trap or

water hazard, as his opponent will then be compelled to suffer the same penalty as if he had run into the trap himself.

When more than two play they are divided into sides, and each member of the team shoots alternately, just as in the old-fashioned Scotch foursome, where the partners have only one ball in play. If A B C were opposed to X Y Z A would strike first, then B and then C, and then A again until the ball was holed out.

Matches may be either for the holes or for medal play, and the tournament at present under way, for which there are nearly a hundred entries, is a medal play handicap. The scores made are very nearly the same as at ordinary golf. It takes a very good player to shoot around 70, and the average is probably about 90 at present, but time and practice may cut this down. If it does we shall have more bunkers or heavier penalties.

AMUSEMENTS.

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WILLIAM FOX Presents RALPH KELLARD with DOROTHY GREEN in "Her Mother's Secret"

A MASTERLY PHOTO-DRAMA OF LOVE THAT BROUGHT A TRAGIC RUIN.

Directed by FREDERICK THOMPSON. RIVERSIDE THEATRE, 9th & B'way. MATINEES 10-15. NIGHTS 13-25.

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PROGRAMME THIS WEEK "THOU ART THE MAN"

A powerful and dramatic 5 part story with popular cast of Vitagraph players. Billie Blinn, George Cooper, and others.

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With Yvonne Garmy & Edgar Heuman. By General Agent Request.

"SON HOMME" with Irene Bordani.

GEO. COHAN'S THEATRE, B'way & 43rd St. COHAN'S TODAY AT 3:00 P. M. FIGHTING FOR FRANCE

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